

Second Public Meeting of the BSB Superfund Health Study Working Group

Butte's Citizen's Environmental Technical Committee (CTEC) is excited to announce the second of a series of public meetings that seeks to incorporate the concerns of area residents in the second in a series of Health Study and Biomonitoring Assessments required at five-year intervals by Butte-Silver Bow's Residential Metals Abatement Program. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 30, from 6:00 – 8:30 PM at the Butte Archives located at 17 West Quartz Street in Butte. Atlantic Richfield is generously providing food and refreshments.

The meeting will be conducted in a workshop format, beginning with Dr. Bill Macgregor, a long-time active CTEC member and recently retired MTech professor, leading a community discussion on public health concerns. Dr. Macgregor will describe how the discussion is part of a broad research effort that relies on funding from the National Institutes of Health in a partnership with Montana Tech, and which includes recently released findings by Dr. Suzanne McDermott and others, to comprehensively define public health concerns expressed by the community and public health professionals. Working Group members from the U.S. EPA, Montana DEQ, BSB Health Department, Montana Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Agency for Disease Registry, and Atlantic Richfield will be present to answer questions and respond to concerns raised. The latter half of the meeting will involve discussions on how the Working Group can move forward in partnership with the community to effectively address public health concerns. The meeting will be facilitated by Dr. Steve Ackerlund, a consultant to CTEC and selected by the Working Group to help ensure all points of view are respectfully heard.

This meeting is a vitally important part of a process that was initiated five years ago by the First Public Meeting in this series, to ensure that the Superfund-mandated Health Study and Biomonitoring Assessment provides information that is meaningful to both the public and health professionals in guiding the ongoing advancement of BSB as a healthful place to live. This goal could not be achieved without the ongoing significant volunteer participation of CTEC members, area physicians, and others in the efforts of the Working Group. However, success in this effort requires participation in these public meetings. We look forward to meeting you!